



2651

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Daniel J. Coonen

Appln. No.: 09/977,098

Filed : October 12, 2001

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS
PROVIDING VARIABLE SPIN PAD
LENGTHS

Docket No.: S01.12-0821

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: D. Negron

RECEIVED

MAR 23 2004

#sla
m
32904

AMENDMENT

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

18th DAY OF March, 2004

[Signature]
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of December
18, 2003 in which claims 1-22 were rejected. Please amend the
above-identified application as follows.